

304 South Maple – Fairfield, Iowa 52556

## Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority

December 17, 2012

**TO:** OFFICE OF GOVERNOR  
State Capitol  
1007 East Grand  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT  
State Capitol  
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LEGISLATIVE FISCAL BUREAU  
State Capitol  
Second Floor  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

IDALS - DIVISION OF SOIL CONSERVATION  
Wallace State Office Building  
502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0050

**FROM:** Larry Davis, President, Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority (SIDCA)

Please find enclosed the Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority (SIDCA) Annual Report for the period of July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012, as required by Iowa Code 2001, Title V, and Chapter 161D.13.

If you have any comments or questions about this report, please contact Detra Dettmann by phone at (641) 472-6177 or e-mail at [detra@pathfindersrcd.org](mailto:detra@pathfindersrcd.org).

Enclosure: Annual Report  
Cc: Detra Dettmann, RC&D Executive Director, Pathfinders RC&D, Inc.

### MEMBER COUNTIES

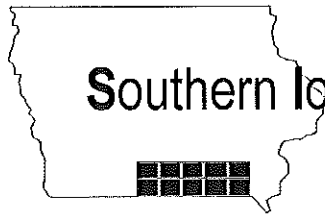
Appanoose  
Lucas

Clarke  
Monroe

Davis  
Van Buren

Decatur  
Wapello

Jefferson  
Wayne



# Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority

## Annual Report

Reporting Period: July 1, 2011—June 30, 2012

**TO:** Office of the Governor  
The Department of Management  
The Legislative Fiscal Bureau  
The Division of Soil Conservation, Iowa Department of Ag and Land Stewardship

**Mission of the Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority:**

*To develop and coordinate plans for projects related to the unique natural resource, rural development, and infrastructure problems of counties in the most fragile areas of the southern Iowa drift plain.*

**Member counties:** Appanoose, Clarke, Davis, Decatur, Jefferson, Lucas, Monroe, Van Buren, Wayne, Wapello

The Southern Iowa Development and Conservation Authority (SIDCA) was established in response to soil erosion, water resource degradation, and stream channel destabilization linked to the fragile glacial till soils of southern Iowa. These concerns largely resulted from the conversion of grassland to cropland. Land conversion was spurred by economic pressures of past federal agricultural policies that had disregard for the fragility of southern Iowa soils and incompatibility with subsidized commodity production.

Soil erosion majorly impacted this region by damaging rural infrastructure including public roads and bridges, degrading stream water quality and riparian habitat, affecting other public and private improvements, and severely threatening the region's potable water supply. Reducing soil erosion, preventing sedimentation, and stopping the entrance of nutrients and pesticides into water resources are necessary to protect the rural infrastructure in southern Iowa. Important protection measures include structural improvements and the re-establishment of grasslands for sustainable economic uses.

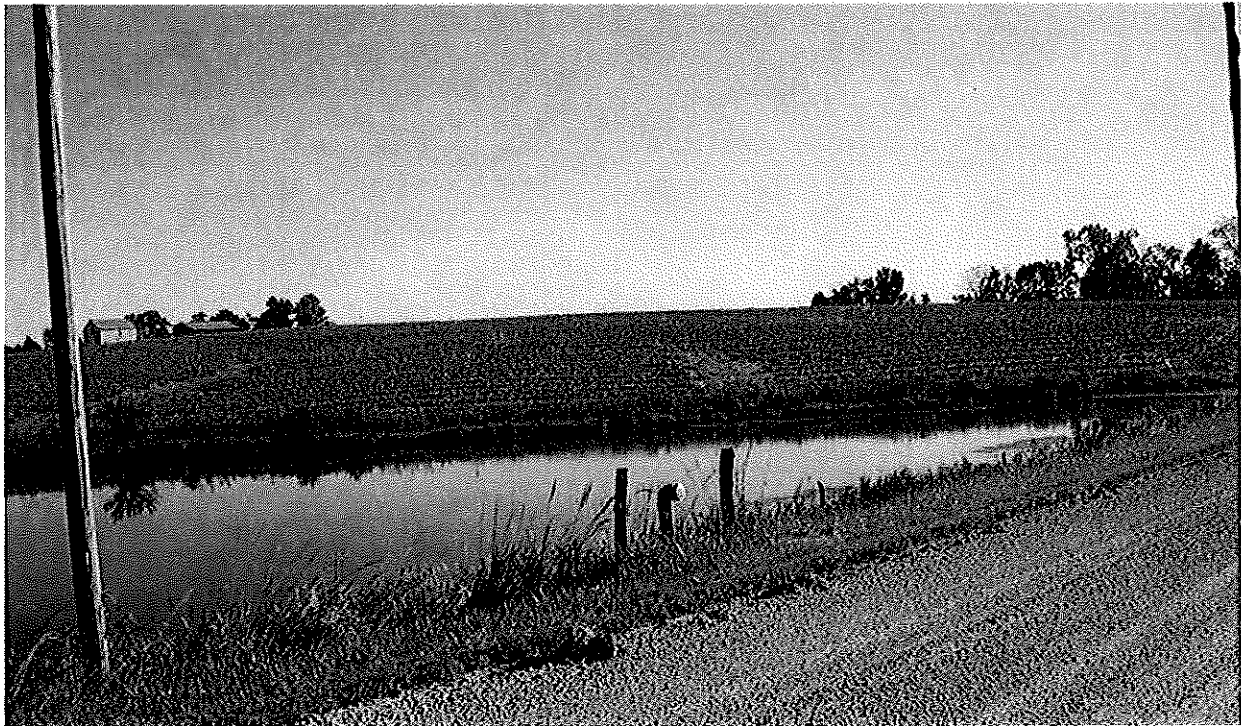
### A. OPERATION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The SIDCA completed the following activities during Fiscal Year 2012:

- **Election of Officers** – Accomplished in accordance with the organization's Constitution and Bylaws, the officers were elected to staggered two-year terms.
- **Audit** completed by an outside accounting firm
- **Project Reviews** – See section D.
- **Pursuit of State Legislative Funding** – A legislative appropriation was not received during this reporting period.

**FY 2012 Board of Directors:**

<b>County</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Position</b>
Appanoose	John Glenn	Vice– President
Clarke	Don Reasoner	Director
Davis	Ron Bride	Director
Decatur	J.R. Cornett	Director
Jefferson	Richard Reed	Treasurer
Lucas	Larry Davis	President
Monroe	John Hughes	Director
Van Buren	Ted Nixon	Director
Wayne	John Sellers	Secretary
Wapello	Steve Siegel	Director



Dry Fire Hydrant benefitting Brighton Fire Department in Jefferson County in conjunction with a SIDCA on-road structure

**B. BUDGET, RECEIPTS, AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES DURING THE 2012 FISCAL YEAR.**

	<b>Checking Account</b> <i>State Appropriated Funds + Membership Funds</i>	<b>Savings Account</b> <i>State Appropriated Funds</i>
Opening Balance — July 1, 2011	\$8,568.73	\$1,099,517.69
<b>Income</b>		
Interest Earned	\$4.62	\$6,139.09
Transfers From Savings	\$248,469.74	
Transfers From Membership	\$9,381.91	
<b>Expense</b>		
Bank Fees and taxes	\$6.18	
Appanoose County Projects	\$5,452.74	
Davis County Projects	\$103,171.87	
Clarke County Projects	\$60,148.00	
Lucas County Projects	\$16,875.00	
Wapello County Projects	\$68,294.52	
Transfers to Checking		\$248,469.74
Professional Fees (Audit)	\$500.00	
Administration Fees (Paid by Membership Account Transfers)	\$7,784.41	
Ending Balance — June 30, 2011	\$4,192.28	\$857,187.04
Additional Obligated Funds for Approved Projects*		\$664,013.00
<b>Balance of Unobligated Funds as of June 30, 2012**</b>		<b>\$197,120.39</b>

The SIDCA financial records are tracked on a cash basis.

Non-state funds (also called Membership Funds) are tracked in a separate savings account (see following page).

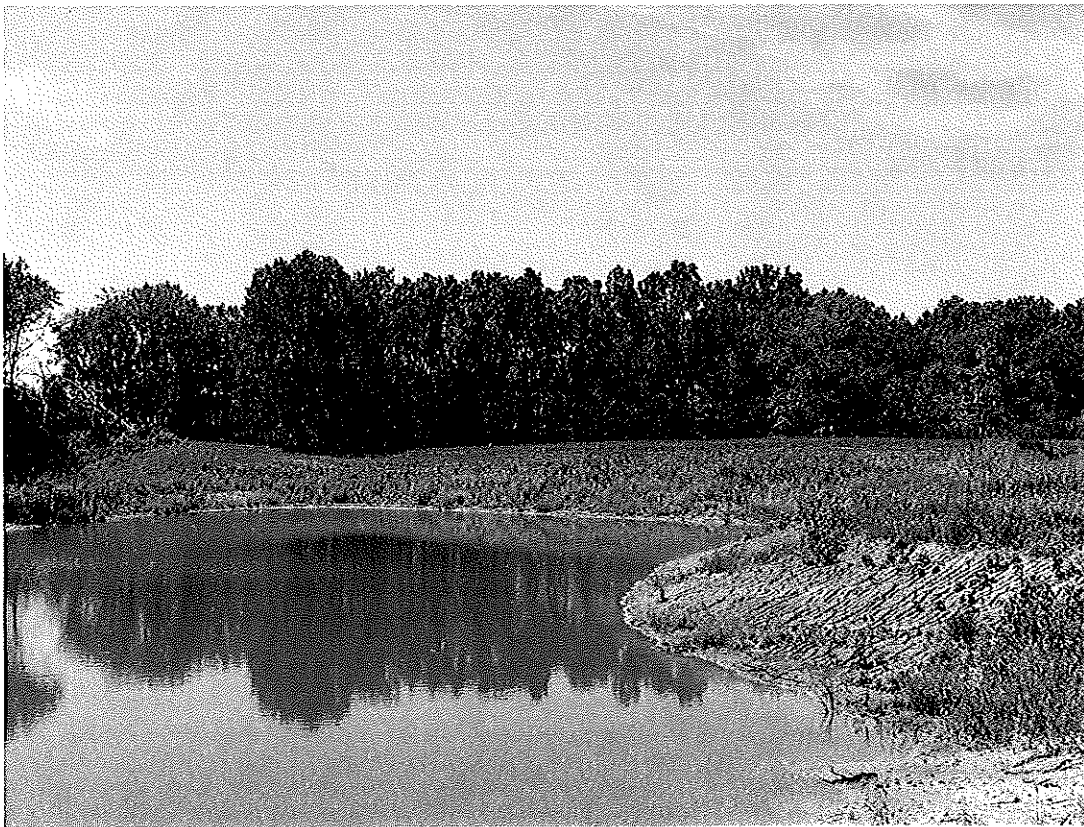
\*Completion of several projects with obligated funds have been delayed due to permitting and excessive rainfall in previous years.

\*\* Unobligated funds equal just above \$19,500 per county (times 10 counties). Most of these funds would have been obligated if county engineers had not been busy with flood and high rain fall issues in their counties the 2-3 years ago, resulting in excessive time spent on clean up efforts.

<b>Membership Funds</b> <i>Non-State Appropriated Funds</i>	
Opening Balance—July 1, 2011	\$19,009.72
Interest Earned	\$90.15
Transfers to Checking for Expenses	\$9,381.91
Ending Balance—June 30, 2012	\$9,717.96

**C. ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT THE END OF THE 2012 FISCAL YEAR AND STATUS OF RESERVE, SPECIAL AND OTHER FUNDS**

Non-State Appropriated Funds include: Membership Funds – as outlined above.



***Gary Loeffler Grade Stabilization Structure in Van Buren County***

This structure reduces sediment delivery, reduces downstream flooding, and increases wildlife habitat. This project also allows for a reduced-sized culvert to be installed, replacing the old wooden box culvert under the road.

FY 2012 SIDCA PROJECTS COMPLETED					
County	Project	Description	Total Cost	SIDCA Funds	% SIDCA
Appanoose	Batterson Erosion Control	Install a grade stab structure to provide erosion control and protect Co. Rd. T-61	\$11,500.00	\$5,452.74	47%
Clarke	Aschenbrenner W. Lake Wetland	Establish a wetland above West Lake, a drinking water supply for Osceola. Project will capture sediment and associated pollutants.	\$186,017.13	\$60,148.00	32%
Davis	Weigand Project	Construct off road structure to help contain stormwater runoff and release water at a slower rate to protect a road and keep sediment from Soap Creek & Des Moines River.	\$19,751.58	\$14,813.69	75%
Davis	Big Wyacondah	Repair an overflow pipe to reduce flow and protect bridges.	\$146,452.50	\$88,358.18	60%
Lucas	#201820 (White)	Repair an on-road structure to prevent washing out of the road if dam breeches, and improves water quality in North Cedar Creek.	\$23,423.91	\$16,875.00	72%
Wapello	Gene Carlson Structure	Erosion control structure reducing flooding and protecting priority Kettle Creek Watershed.	56,588.06	42,441.05	75%
Wapello	Newquist-Durflinger Structure	Installation of erosion control structure affecting 4 county roads. Catches sediment.	\$119,560.80	\$72,750.00	75%
Wapello	Bridge #189	Replace bridge with low water crossing allowing a closed road to be reopened.	\$51,571.52	\$17,000.00	33%
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$614,865.70</b>	<b>\$317,838.66</b>	<b>52%</b>

*"Counties have experienced severe degradation of stream channels over the last 4 to 5 years of heavier than normal rains and "On Road" structures funded by SIDAC have been very effective in protecting roads and bridges, reducing erosion, and improving stream water quality."*

Observation from a SIDCA County Engineer

#### D. STATEMENT OF PROPOSED AND PROJECTED ACTIVITIES.

On-Road/Off-Road Structures – SIDCA utilizes earthen embankments with existing roads or on-road structures to effectively reduce culvert size and/or replace bridges. This practice creates cost savings to the counties and often stops 95% of sediment, nutrients and pesticide from entering downstream water bodies.

Additional SIDCA Projects Approved and in Progress					
County	Project Name	Description	Total Cost	SIDCA Funds	% Pd By SIDCA
Appanoose	Glick Structure	Replace culvert and help trap silt that enters Chariton River & protects road that allows access to farms	\$50,000	\$37,500	75%
Appanoose	Crosby Structure	Replaces culvert to protect farm access road. Culvert instead of bridge allows clear access for farm equip. Also traps sediment entering Chariton River.	\$60,000	\$40,000	67%
Appanoose	Moulton Watershed 310th Ave	Replace deteriorating 1964 structure so the road continues to be usable as well as trap silt and improve water to Chariton River	\$52,000	\$26,000	50%
Appanoose	Moulton Watershed 290th Ave	Replace deteriorating 1964 structure so the road continues to be usable as well as trap silt and improve water to Chariton River	\$54,000	\$27,000	50%
Davis	Cope Project	Built an off-road structure to replace a bridge with a culvert. Will hold and slow down storm water and reduce erosion.	\$52,000	\$39,000	75%
Davis	Grimm Project	Replacement of failing bridge with off road structures to slow water and rail road tank car. Project will benefit Little Fox River.	\$82,800	\$62,100	75%
Jefferson	127th Street Gevock Project	Removal of metal culvert and replaced with using road used as dam to create a water retention structure. Water will be slowed and erosion reduced, long-term maintenance costs reduced. Road made wider creating safer shoulders.	\$25,360	\$19,020	75%
Jefferson	Quince Ave. Kurtz Project	Removal of box culvert and replaced with road used as dam to create a water retention structure. Water will be slowed and erosion reduced, long-term maintenance costs reduced.	\$68,022	\$51,000	75%

Continued....Additional SIDCA Projects Approved and in Progress					
County	Project Name	Description	Total Cost	SIDCA Funds	% Pd By SIDCA
Jefferson	Heidt's Pond Rd Structure	Removal of metal culvert and replaced with using road used as dam to create a water retention structure. Water will be slowed and erosion reduced, long-term maintenance costs reduced. Possible dry hydrant.	\$65,000	\$48,750	75%
Lucas	Williamson Pond	Install a structure to stabilize section of 530th Road and capture runoff to protect Williamson Pond.	\$44,460	\$22,230	50%
Lucas	321094 On-Road Structure Repair (Nash)	Repair deteriorating 1967 on-road structure using 12"x 280' CMP to keep road from washing out	\$38,602.00	\$19,301.00	50%
Lucas	122066 On-Road Structure Repair (Bontrager)	Repair deteriorating 1978 on-road structure using 12"x 280' CMP to keep road from washing out	\$17,069.00	\$8,534.50	50%
Van Buren	Rip-Rap Jettie Project	Road reconstruction, bank stabilization and channel mitigation on Des Moines River.	\$106,100	\$50,000	47%
Van Buren	Loeffler Project	Construction of small detention pond and replacement of deteriorated culvert. Will reduce soil erosion.	\$30,770	\$23,078	75%
Van Buren	Des Moines River Bank Stabilization	Stabilize eroding bank and reconstruct road to keep Eagle Road usable to the public	\$150,000	\$50,000	30%
Wapello	County Road 25th Avenue	Erosion control structure above Co Rd 25th Ave to allow 8" culvert to be replaced with 36" culvert, in Competine Watershed	\$30,000	\$15,000	50%
Wayne	Hazy Brook Structure (L606)	Replace bridge with on-road structure. Keeps road usable and will stop bank erosion related to the bridge.	\$60,000	\$25,000	42%
Wayne	Couchman Project	Replaced failed culvert with impoundment. Will reduce soil erosion keeping sediment and associated nutrients out of stream.	\$68,000	\$51,000	75%
Wayne	Sheehan-Andrews Project	Replaced failed culvert with impoundment. Will reduce soil erosion keeping sediment and associated nutrients out of stream.	\$64,000	\$48,000	75%
Wayne	Upper Locust Creek Site L-41	Repair of emergency spillway benefitting the farm-to-market road J-54.	\$2,000	\$1,500	75%

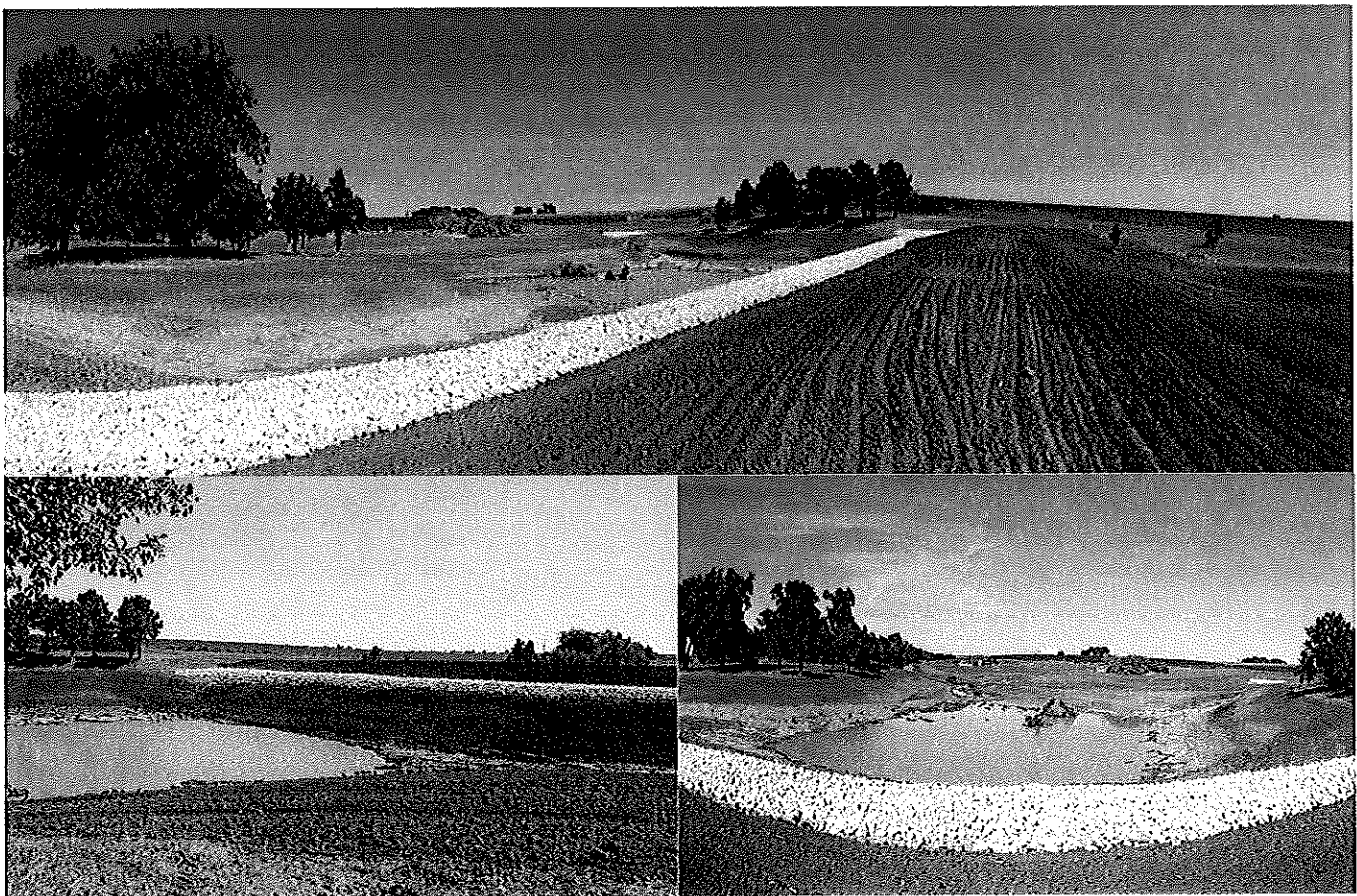
**E. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AS DEEMED NECESSARY.**

The SIDCA appreciates the appropriation of funds in FY2002, FY2004, FY2005, FY2006, FY2007, FY2008, FY2009, FY2010, and FY2011. While funds were not appropriated in FY 2012 and FY 2013, the SIDCA understands the economic challenges facing the legislature.

SIDCA's main priority is the installation of on and off-road structures and related projects that provide both transportation infrastructure and water resource benefits in the 10-county region. **In light of the improved State's budget situation, the SIDCA is requesting funding for FY2014 in the amount of \$250,000 (\$25,000 / county x 10 counties).**

The Iowa Code states SIDCA may use 5% of it's appropriated funds for administrative costs, however, the SIDCA Board of Directors continues to *use all appropriated funds for projects*. **In FY 2013, 100% of past state funds appropriated will be used to cost-share the construction of on and off-road structures and related projects that provide both transportation infrastructure and water resource benefits in the 10-county SIDCA area.** Member counties and existing public programs provide the balance of funds required for the projects.

The Authority thanks you for consideration of their request.



*Tim Davis Structure, Wapello County*

This Structure controls 138 acres and reduces sediment to the creek by an estimated 152 tons/year. The structure also replaces an 8 foot culvert with a 3 foot culvert and benefits 3 bridges within one mile of the structure.

## **F. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS DEEMED NECESSARY.**

Because of the support of the Iowa Legislature to assist these 10 southern Iowa counties in the unique approach of improving transportation infrastructure and protecting water quality, the SIDCA will highlight a few of these efforts.

To date, SIDCA's priority is the installation of on-road/off-road structures.

Benefits of SIDCA structures:

- **Reducing infrastructure costs** for the counties
- **Improving rural development potential** of the area
- **Removing rural bridge weight limits and width restrictions** for wide loads.
- **Providing flood control** to county roads and bridges down stream
- **Effectively capturing 95% of eroded soil** carried in runoff
- **Reducing agricultural chemicals** flowing into water resources such as lakes used for drinking water
- **Stabilizing eroding stream banks** and halting gully formation
- **Providing opportunities to improve rural fire suppression** with the installation of dry fire hydrants
- **Providing livestock watering**
- **Providing additional fisheries and wildlife benefits**
- **Enhancing recreational and scenic qualities** of southern Iowa.

*Engineers in the 10-county area estimate 55–60 structures or projects could be constructed in the next 5-year time period, with available funding.*

### **SUMMARY OF SIDCA APPROPRIATED FUNDS**

#### **FY 2012 appropriation (\$0)**

No legislative funds were allocated to SIDCA for FY 2012 appropriations, and no FY 2012 funds received.

#### **FY 2011 appropriation (\$250,000)**

- 21% of FY 2011 funds obligated to approved projects
- All funds to be expended on actual construction costs for projects
- *0% of appropriated funds to be used for administration or related expenses*

#### **FY 2010 appropriation (\$300,000)**

- 100% FY 2010 funds obligated to approved projects
- 100% of funds to be expended on actual construction costs for projects
- *0% of appropriated funds to be used for administration or related expenses*

**FY 2009 appropriation (\$300,000)**

- 100% of FY 2009 funds obligated to approved projects
- 100% of funds expended were spent on actual construction costs for projects
- *0% of appropriated funds used for administration or related expenses*

**FY 2008 appropriation (\$300,000)**

- 100% FY 2008 funds expended on actual construction costs for projects
- 10 projects completed in 6 of the 10 counties
- *0% of appropriated funds used for administration or related expenses*

**FY 2007 appropriation (\$300,000)**

- 100% FY 2007 funds expended on actual construction costs for projects
- 15 projects completed in 8 of the 10 counties
- SIDCA state allocation dollars leveraged 2:1
- *0% of appropriated funds used for administration or related expenses*

**FY 2006 appropriation (\$300,000)**

- 100% FY 2006 funds expended on actual construction costs for projects
- 20 projects completed in 8 of the 10 counties
- SIDCA state allocation dollars leveraged 2:1 overall
- Several projects leveraged SIDCA funds 10 to 1
- *0% of appropriated funds used for administration or related expenses*
- Unique project: SIDCA partnered with Van Buren County and FEMA to provide bank stabilization on Chequest Creek and save an endangered bridge
- Unique project: SIDCA partnered with Little River Lake Sponsors in Decatur County reduce sedimentation into Little River Lake (a drinking water source and recreation area)

**FY 2005 Appropriation: \$300,000**

- 100% FY 2005 funds expended on actual construction costs for projects
- 16 projects completed in 9 of the 10 counties
- SIDCA state allocation dollars leveraged 3.5 to 1
- *0% of appropriated funds used for administration or related expenses*

**FY 2004 Appropriation: \$300,000**

- 100% FY 2004 funds expended on actual construction costs for projects
- 9 projects completed in 8 of the 10 counties
- State allocation dollars were leveraged 3:1
- *0% of appropriated funds used for administration or related expenses*

### **FY 2003 Appropriation: Recalled**

Legislative funds were initially allocated to SIDCA for FY 2003 appropriations, however the funds were recalled due to state budget cuts. Therefore, no FY 2003 funds were received.

### **FY 2002 Appropriation: \$250,000**

Due to state budget cuts, approximately 12% of the FY2002 allocation was de-appropriated from SIDCA. These funds were allocated to projects prior to the de-appropriation of funds by the state.

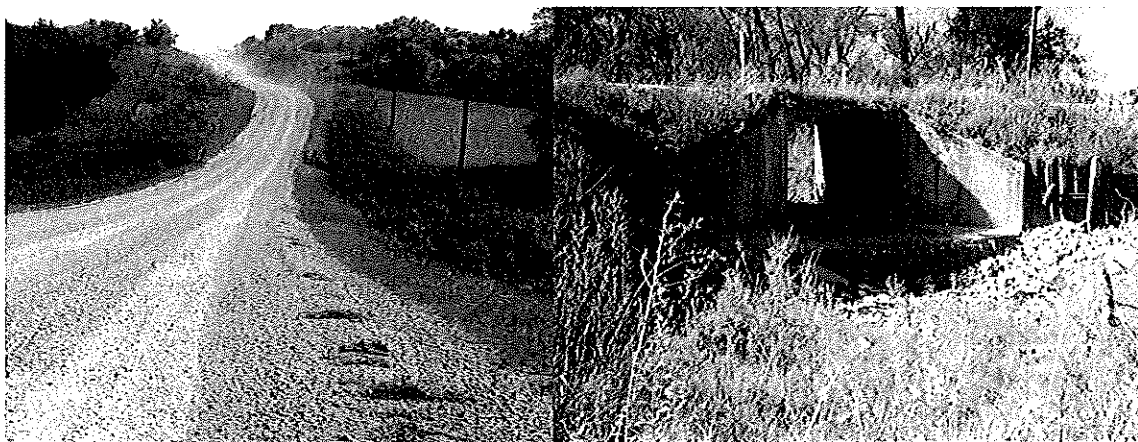
- 100% FY 2002 funds expended on actual construction costs for projects
- 11 projects completed in 7 of the 10 counties
- *0% of appropriated funds used for administration or related expenses*

### **SIDCA Attracts and Leverages Outside Funding for Non-Infrastructure Project**

- **\$100,000** funding for the COE Recognizance Study of the Lower Des Moines River
- SIDCA sought to be original sponsor of the COE Section 206 Project. This program has potential to generate **\$5 million** of funding into the Rathbun Lake Watershed for aquatic habitat restoration. SIDCA now working with partners to pursue this project with a different sponsor.
- Partners on SIDCA Projects since 2002:
  1. State Legislature
  2. IDALS – Division of Soil Conservation
  3. Counties
  4. Cities
  5. Soil and Water Conservation Districts
  6. Natural Resources Conservation Service
  7. Chariton Valley, Pathfinders, & Southern Iowa RC&D's
  8. Iowa Department of Natural Resources
  9. Watershed Organizations
  10. Rural Water Associations
  11. U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
  12. County Conservation Boards
  13. Private Landowners
  14. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
  15. Watershed Improvement Review Board (WIRB)
  16. Pheasants Forever
  17. Ducks Unlimited

### Unique Benefits of Current and Completed Projects:

- Replacement of deteriorated wooden box culvert with earthen embankments *improves traffic safety* by providing safer slopes for a greater recovery area for traffic
- *Reducing culvert size and improved erosion control*
- *Removing load limit restrictions* by replacing an old bridge with an on-road structure. Estimated savings for the county range from \$20,000 to \$50,000+ on average
- Leveraging SIDCA funds to *construct smaller structures* through cooperation with local landowners, soil and water conservation districts, counties, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and other partners



**BEFORE SIDCA:** Deteriorated 12' x 12' box culvert in Davis County with several cracks, exposed re-rod, erosion problems, and safety concerns.



**AFTER SIDCA:** Deteriorated box culvert replaced with an on-road structure. Photo shows site at normal pool level, however, water flowed through emergency outlet the morning after a 10 – 12 inch rainfall event in 2007, expected not to occur more than once in 50 years. Funds to complete the project came from PL-566 Federal Watershed funds for Soap Creek, Davis County Secondary Road funds, and SIDCA.

**Total Project Cost - \$466,500**

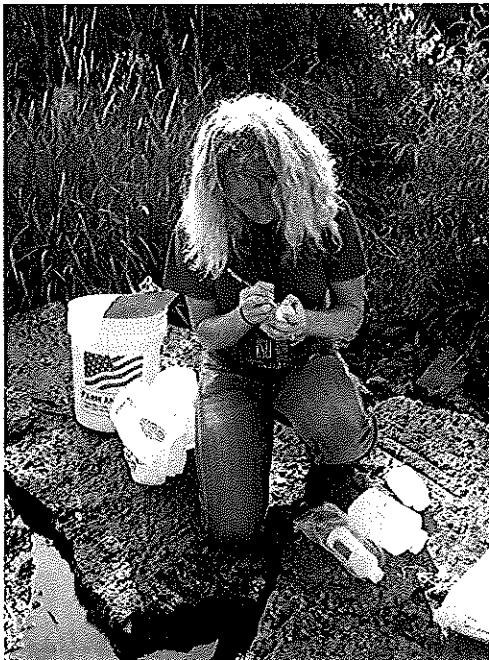
**SIDCA Contribution - \$25,000 (5.4%)**

**Partner Contribution - \$441,500 (94.6%)**

Through the activities outlined in this report and through the continual exploration into new endeavors, SIDCA continues to make progress toward its mission:

*To develop and coordinate plans for projects related to the unique natural resource, rural development, and infrastructure problems of counties in the most fragile areas of the southern Iowa drift plain.*

**The SIDCA Board of Directors thanks the State of Iowa for its cooperation and support.**



Caitlin Buswell, summer intern for The Clarke County Soil and Water Conservation District, labels water samples taken from a wetland that was established above West Lake in 2011 using SIDCA funds.

A water monitoring program is being conducted in the watershed to help determine the effectiveness of the wetland in improving the water quality of West Lake, the drinking water supply for the City of Osceola.